

Decorator Crab



Description: Decorator Crabs are hard to find! This is because they camouflage with their surroundings by decorating the backs of their shells with animals and seaweeds from their habitat. The decorator crabs have hooked setae (a velcro-like substance) on their backs that allows objects to stick to them.

Larger decorator crabs who can defend themselves do not decorate themselves, however, random plants and animals settle on their backs nonetheless.

Where they are Found: Decorator Crabs are found from northern California to the Baja California

Diet: Decorator Crabs eat algae, sponges, and small crustaceans. Sometimes they decorate themselves with the same things that they eat!

Status in the ocean: Decorator crabs are not currently endangered. However, run off such as oil, paint, and other chemicals can endanger these crabs homes. Make sure to carefully dispose of these products.

WOW!!! Decorator crabs will decorate themselves with anything in their habitat, even string, puffballs and pollution.